to the SCs/STs, if necessary by adopting liberal yardsticks/benchmarks as compared to officers from the "General" category.

Irregularities in Civil Services Exams

2496. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the aspirants for the Civil Services-2006 had alleged irregularities in the conduct of the preliminary examinations by the UPSC and had sought disclosure of marks and cut-off obtained by each candidate and if so, whether UPSC had refused to comply with the demand;

(b) whether the Central Information Commission has now directed the UPSC to provide the information sought for by the candidates as provided under the RTI Act; and

(c) whether the UPSC has been depriving SC/ST candidates for the Civil Service exams of their legitimate quota on selection, by including the SC/ST candidates selected under the 'General' category in the SC/ST Reserved category?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCESAND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) According to information made available by UPSC, no representation alleging irregularities in the conduct of the Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination, 2006 has been received from the candidates in the UPSC. Some candidates did ask, under the RTI Act, for the disclosure of individual marks obtained by them and cut-off for different optional subjects for each category SC, ST, OBC and General.The applicants were informed by the UPSC that the information sought by them formed part of Commission's crucial secrets and intellectual property under Section 8(1)(d) of the RTI Act, 2005.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Central Information Commission had directed UPSC to disclose the marks assigned to each of the applicants for the Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination, 2006 in General Studies and Optional subjects and to disclose the cut-off marks fixed in respect of each of the Optional Subject and if no such cut off marks are there, it shall disclose the subject wise marks assigned to short listed candidates. However, the

Hon'ble High court has stayed the implementation of the order issued by the Central Information Commission, on a writ filed by the UPSC.

(c) No, Sir. The UPSC recommends the candidates for appointment. While doing so, it specifies the candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC, who qualify at the general standards. Department of Personnel and Training allots the service to the recommended cadidates as per rules. The candidates qualifying at general standards are allotted against the general seats; however, they are at times also allotted against the reserved seats if, by this process, they would get a service of a higher choice in the order or their perference.

Creation of employment opportunities

†2497. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no new employment opportunities are created in the country from 1994 to 2001 whereas in the said period the annual growth rate remained around 5.3%;

(b) if so, the fact in this regard; and

(c) the reasons for non-creation of additional employment opportunities according to annual growth rate in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) and (b) As per estimates available from National Sample Surveys (NSS) on employment and unemployment, employment opportunities on Usual Principal Status basis have increased 1.70 per annum during 1993-94 and 2000-01. The annual growth rate of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) was 6.3% during the same period.

(c) Growth rate of GDP is not dependent only on labour. Rather it depends on many factors like land, capital and changes in technology etc. Therefore, growth in employment may not necessarily be same as annual growth rate in the country.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi